IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A performance monitoring system comprising:

a staging area receiving data from one or more data sources;

a KPI store storing performance information relating to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);

a loader transforming the received data into the performance information relating to the KPIs, calculating scores based on the received data and the performance information stored in the KPI store to indicate changes in the KPIs such that the scores indicate if associated KPIs are getting better [[or]], worse, or is unchanged, and loading the performance information including the scores into the KPI store; and

an information presentation unit presenting the performance information to a user, wherein the information presentation unit has a front-end interface having a data guided monitoring function that receives a user input and presents relevant performance information in a selected order based on the user input to allow the user to monitor and analyze the performance information using the scores, wherein the staging area receives a target value and an actual value for a KPI, and wherein the loader calculates a score for the KPI based on the actual value and the target value to indicate if the KPI is good, bad or neutral compared to the target value, and calculates another score by comparing the calculated score and a score calculated and stored in the KPI store at a previous loading, so that the another score indicates if the KPI is getting better, worse, or is unchanged.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information presentation unit has a function that presents a higher level of the performance information in a form capable of breaking down into a lower lever level of performance information.

8.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the staging area is capable of providing provides to the loader, data that has changed from a last loading.

9.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the staging area contains value information for the KPIs and time information relating to one or more time periods to which the value information is applied;

the loader has a function to determine which KPI is effected affected by a change in the value information; and

the KPI store is capable of storing the value information in association with the time information in a relational cube having the time and indicator dimensions, actual values, target values, and score values for the KPIs, and/or and business metadata as a network of content of the metadata.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information presentation unit comprises:

an application server accessing and managing the performance information stored in the KPI store[[.]], wherein the front-end interface has a function that allows a user to add to or modify annotation in the performance information, and wherein the KPI store is capable of storing stores the annotation.

15.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim [[14]] 1, wherein the data guided monitoring function is capable of presenting presents the performance information of a selected KPI together with related KPIs which are in a cause and effect relation with the selected KPI, and/or presenting and presents the performance information of related KPIs in a diagram to navigate the user through the related KPIs.

16.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 15,
wherein the data guided monitoring function has a function that presents the performance
information for relevant KPIs sorted based on a selected type of scores, ~~and/or~~ and
presents the performance information for relevant KPIs filtered and sorted based on the
scores of the KPIs.

17-19. (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently amended) A performance monitoring system comprising:

a staging area receiving data from one or more data sources;

a KPI store storing performance information relating to Key Performance
Indicators (KPIs);

a loader transforming the received data into the performance information relating
to the KPIs, and loading the performance information including scores into the KPI store
wherein the scores indicate if associated KPIs are getting better or worse or unchanged;
and

an information presentation unit presenting the performance information to a
viewer, the information presentation unit having a viewer driven sorter and/or a viewer
driven filter allowing the viewer to sort and/or filter the performance information using
the scores of all or some of the KPIs stored in the KPI store, wherein the staging area
receives a target value and an actual value for a KPI, and wherein the loader calculates a
score for the KPI based on the actual value and the target value to indicate if the KPI is
good, bad or neutral compared to the target value, and calculates another score by
comparing the calculated score and a score calculated and stored in the KPI store at a
previous loading, so that the another score indicates if the KPI is getting better, worse, or
is unchanged.

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 20,
wherein the information presentation unit has a function that allows the viewer to add to

or modify annotation in the performance, and the KPI store is capable of storing stores the annotation.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the information presentation unit has a function that presents multiple view metric types, and has a metric selector that allows the viewer to select a preferred view metric type to present [[the]] sorted and/or and filtered performance information.

25. (Currently amended) The performance monitoring system as claimed in claim 22, wherein:

the loader has a function that calculates scores based on the received data and the performance information stored in the KPI store to indicate changes in the KPIs, and

the viewer driven sorter and filter has a function that sorts and/or and filters the performance information based on the scores calculated based on the changes in the KPIs.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring business performance, the method comprising steps of:

receiving data from one or more data sources;

transforming the received data into performance information relating to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);

storing the performance information into a KPI store;

calculating scores based on the received data and the performance information stored in the KPI store to indicate changes in the KPIs such that the scores indicate if associated KPIs are getting better or worse or unchanged;

loading the performance information including the scores into the KPI store;

receiving a user input; and

presenting the performance information to a user in a selected order based on the user input, using relevant KPIs sorted and/or filtered based on a selected type of scores of the KPIs, to allow the user to monitor and analyze the performance information using the scores, wherein receiving data comprises receiving a target value and an actual value for a KPI, and wherein calculating scores comprises calculating a score for the KPI based on the actual value and the target value to indicate if the KPI is good, bad or neutral compared to the target value, and calculating another score by comparing the calculated score and a score calculated and stored in the KPI store at a previous loading, so that the another score indicates if the KPI is getting better, worse, or is unchanged.

28-32. (Cancelled)

33.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the presentation step presents presenting the performance information comprises presenting a higher level of the performance information in a form capable of breaking down into a lower lever level of the performance information.

34.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the receiving step receiving data from the one or more data sources makes available data that has changed from a last loading.

35.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein:
        the receiving step receives receiving data from the one or more data sources comprises receiving value information for the KPIs and time information relating to one or more time periods to which the value information is applied;
        the calculating step determines calculating scores comprises determining which value information is effected affected by a change in the value information; and
        the storing step stores storing the performance information comprises storing the value information in association with the time information, actual values, target values and score values for the KPIs in a relational cube having the time and indicator dimensions, and/or and business metadata as a network of content of the metadata.

36-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 27 wherein ~~the presenting step~~ presenting the performance information comprises ~~steps of~~:

presenting the performance information of a selected KPI together with related KPIs which are in a cause and effect relation with the selected KPI, ~~and/or~~ and presenting the performance information of related KPIs in a diagram to navigate the user through the related KPIs.

41-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring performance comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving data from one or more data sources;

storing, in a KPI store, performance information relating to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);

transforming the received data into the performance information relating to the KPIs;

loading the performance information including scores into the KPI store wherein the scores indicate if associated KPIs are getting better or worse or unchanged; and

presenting the performance information to a viewer, allowing the viewer to sort and/or filter the performance information using the scores of all or some of the KPIs stored in the KPI store, wherein receiving data comprises receiving a target value and an actual value for a KPI, and wherein transforming the received data comprises calculating a score for the KPI based on the actual value and the target value to indicate if the KPI is good, bad or neutral compared to the target value, and calculating another score by comparing the calculated score and a score calculated and stored in the KPI store at a previous loading, so that the another score indicates if the KPI is getting better, worse, or is unchanged.

46. (Cancelled)

47.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein ~~the~~ presenting ~~step further comprising a step of~~ the performance information comprises allowing the viewer to add to or modify annotation to the performance information, and ~~the storing step stores~~ wherein storing performance information comprises storing the annotation in the KPI store.

48.   (Cancelled)

49.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 47, wherein ~~the~~ presenting ~~step further comprising steps of~~ the performance information comprises providing options of multiple view metric types, and allowing the viewer to select a preferred view metric type to present ~~the~~ sorted/filtered performance information.

50.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 49, wherein:
       ~~the loading step having a step of~~ loading the performance information comprises calculating scores based on the received data and the performance information stored in the KPI store to indicate changes in the KPIs; and
       ~~the presenting step allows~~ presenting the performance information comprises allowing the viewer to sort ~~and/or~~ and filter the performance information based on the changes in the KPIs.

51.   (Cancelled)

52.   (Currently amended) A computer readable medium storing the instructions and/or statements for use in the execution in a computer of a method of monitoring business performance, the method comprising ~~steps of~~:
       receiving data from one or more data sources;
       transforming the received data into performance information relating to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);
       storing the performance information into a KPI store;

calculating scores based on the received data and the performance information stored in the KPI store to indicate changes in the KPIs such that the scores indicate if associated KPIs are getting better or worse or unchanged;

loading the performance information including the scores into the KPI store;

receiving a user input; and

presenting the performance information to a user in a selected order based on the user input, using relevant KPIs sorted and/or filtered based on a selected type of scores of the KPIs so as to allow the user to monitor and analyze the performance information using the scores, wherein receiving data comprises receiving a target value and an actual value for a KPI, and wherein calculating scores comprises calculating a score for the KPI based on the actual value and the target value to indicate if the KPI is good, bad or neutral compared to the target value, and calculating another score by comparing the calculated score and a score calculated and stored in the KPI store at a previous loading, so that the another score indicates if the KPI is getting better, worse, or is unchanged.

53-54. (Cancelled)

55.	(Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the presenting step the performance information comprises the step of allowing the user to add to or modify annotation to the performance information, and wherein the storing step stores the performance information comprises storing the annotation in the KPI store.